

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 24 and 25 are amended. The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended.

Claims 1-23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Currently amended). An isolated polypeptide having antimicrobial activity, comprising the amino acid sequence:

Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa (SEQ ID NO: 1)
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wherein

Xaa at position 2 is Ile, Leu, Met or Trp:

Xaa at position 3 is Leu, Phe, Trp or Val:

Xaa at position 4 is Arg, Asn, Asp, Glu, Gly, Ile, Lys, Ser or Thr;

Xaa at position 5 is Arg, Ile, Leu, Lys, Met, Phe, Ser or Thr.

Xaa at position 6 is Ile or Leu:

Xaa at position 7 is Arg, Glu, Gly, Lys or Met:

Xaa at position 8 is Arg, Ile, Lys, Met, Ser or Thr:

Xaa at position 9 is Ala, Arg, Asn, Glu, Iys or Thr

Xaa at position 10 is Ala, Gly, Ile, Leu, Met, Ser, Thr, Trp or Val;

Xaa at position 11 is Arg, Glu, Iys or Ser.

Xaa at position 12 is Arg, Asn, His, Ile, Lys, Met or Thr.

Xaa at position 13 is Ala, Ile, Leu, Phe, Thr, Tyr or Val:

Xaa at position 14 is Ala, Cys, Gly, Ieu, Phe, Trp or Val;

Xaa at position 15 is Ala, Arg, Gln, Glu, Lys or Ser;

Xaa at position 16 is Arg, Asp, Asn, Gly, His, Ile, Met, Ser or Val

Yes at position 17 is Ala, Ile, Phe or Val; and

Xaa at position 18 is Arg, Cys, Gly, Ile, Phe, Pro, Tyr or Val.

Yes at position 10 is absent:

Yes at position 20 is absent; and

Yaa at position 31 is absent.

wherein each amino acid is independently the D or L form and the polypeptide has antimicrobial activity.

Claim 25 (Currently amended). The polypeptide of claim 24, which consists of the amino acid sequence

Gly-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa
5 10 15
Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa (SEQ ID NO: 1)
20.

Claim 26 (Previously presented). The polypeptide of claim 24, which comprises the sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 2-37.

Claim 27 (Previously presented). The polypeptide of claim 24, which consists of the sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOs: 2-37.

Claim 28 (Previously presented). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 24 and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

Claim 29 (Previously presented). The pharmaceutical composition of claim 28, which further comprises an additional biocidal agent.

Claim 30 (Previously presented). A detergent composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 24 and a surfactant.

Claim 31 (Previously presented). An animal feed additive comprising

- (a) at least one polypeptide of claim 24; and
- (b) at least one fat soluble vitamin, and/or
- (c) at least one water soluble vitamin, and/or
- (d) at least one trace mineral, and/or
- (e) at least one macro mineral.

Claim 32 (Previously presented). The animal feed additive of claim 31, which further comprises phytase, xylanase, galactanase, and/or beta-glucanase.

Claim 33 (Previously presented). An animal feed composition having a crude protein content of 50 to 800 g/kg and comprising a polypeptide of claim 24.

Claim 34 (Previously presented). A method for killing or inhibiting growth of microbial cells comprising contacting the microbial cells with a polypeptide of claim 24, wherein the microbial cells are selected from the group consisting of *Bacillus* cells, *Escherichia* cells and *Pseudomonas* cells.

Claim 35 (Previously presented). A method of treating a microbial infection, comprising administering to an animal or human a polypeptide of claim 24 in an amount effective to treat the microbial infection.

Claim 36 (Previously presented). An isolated polypeptide having antimicrobial activity, comprising the amino acid sequence:

Gly-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa-Xaa
5 10 15
Xaa-Xaa-Arg-Trp-Leu (SEQ ID NO: 1)
20

wherein

Xaa at position 2 is Ile, Leu, Met or Trp;
Xaa at position 3 is Leu, Phe, Trp or Val;
Xaa at position 4 is Arg, Asn, Asp, Glu, Gly, Ile, Lys, Ser or Thr;
Xaa at position 5 is Arg, Ile, Leu, Lys, Met, Phe, Ser or Thr;
Xaa at position 6 is Ile or Leu;
Xaa at position 7 is Arg, Glu, Gly, Lys or Met;
Xaa at position 8 is Arg, Ile, Lys, Met, Ser or Thr;
Xaa at position 9 is Ala, Arg, Asn, Glu, Lys or Thr;
Xaa at position 10 is Ala, Gly, Ile, Leu, Met, Ser, Thr, Trp or Val;
Xaa at position 11 is Arg, Glu, Lys or Ser;
Xaa at position 12 is Arg, Asn, His, Ile, Lys, Met or Thr;
Xaa at position 13 is Ala, Ile, Leu, Phe, Thr, Tyr or Val;
Xaa at position 14 is Ala, Cys, Gly, Leu, Phe, Trp or Val;

Xaa at position 15 is Ala, Arg, Gln, Glu, Lys or Ser;
Xaa at position 16 is Arg, Asn, Asp, Gly, His, Ile, Met, Ser or Val;
Xaa at position 17 is Ala, Ile, Phe or Val; and
Xaa at position 18 is Ala, Arg, Cys, Gly, Leu, Phe, Pro, Tyr or Val

wherein each amino acid is independently the D or L form and wherein the polypeptide has antimicrobial activity.

Claim 37 (Previously presented). The polypeptide of claim 36, which consists of the amino acid sequence

Claim 38 (Previously presented). The polypeptide of claim 36, which comprises the sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 38-41 and 43-46.

Claim 39 (Previously presented). The polypeptide of claim 36, which consists of the sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS: 38-41 and 43-46.

Claim 40 (Previously presented). The polypeptide of claim 36, which comprises the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 42.

Claim 41 (Previously presented). The polypeptide of claim 36, which consists of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 42.

Claim 42 (Previously presented). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 36 and a pharmaceutically-acceptable carrier.

Claim 43 (Previously presented). The pharmaceutical composition of claim 42, which further comprises an additional biocidal agent.

Claim 44 (Previously presented). A detergent composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 36 and a surfactant.

Claim 45 (Previously presented). An animal feed additive comprising

- (a) at least one polypeptide of claim 36; and
- (b) at least one fat soluble vitamin, and/or
- (c) at least one water soluble vitamin, and/or
- (d) at least one trace mineral, and/or
- (e) at least one macro mineral.

Claim 46 (Previously presented). The animal feed additive of claim 45, which further comprises phytase, xylanase, galactanase, and/or beta-glucanase.

Claim 47 (Previously presented). An animal feed composition having a crude protein content of 50 to 800 g/kg and comprising a polypeptide of claim 36.

Claim 48 (Previously presented). A method for killing or inhibiting growth of microbial cells comprising contacting the microbial cells with a polypeptide of claim 36, wherein the microbial cells are selected from the group consisting of *Bacillus* cells, *Escherichia* cells and *Pseudomonas* cells.

Claim 49 (Previously presented). A method of treating a microbial infection, comprising administering to an animal or human a polypeptide of claim 36 in an amount effective to treat the microbial infection.